



Maryland State's Attorneys' Association

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For Immediate Release

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Howard Prosecutor is 2017 Recipient of Victoria F. Gelfman Legal Excellence Award

Howard County Assistant State's Attorney Elizabeth M. Rosen is the 2017 recipient of the Victoria F. Gelfman Legal Excellence Award. Her selection was announced at the annual summer conference of the Maryland State's Attorneys' Association (MDSAA).

Ms. Rosen joined the Howard County State's Attorney's Office in 2013 after receiving her B.A. from Wake Forest University and her J.D. from the University of Maryland School of Law, followed by stints as a judicial law clerk for Howard County Circuit Court Judge Richard S. Bernhardt, the Office of the Public Defender for Baltimore County, the Office of the State's Attorney for Baltimore City and the United States Department of Justice. She currently prosecutes cases in the Jury Trial Payer Unit of the state's attorney's office.

Elizabeth Rosen is active in community affairs and legal professional associations. She recently co-chaired the membership committee of the Maryland State Bar Association's (MSBA) Young Lawyers Section where she organized "MSBA 101," an introductory orientation for new members, among other events. In June, she became secretary of the Young Lawyers Section Council Executive Board. Ms. Rosen is also an active member of the Howard County Bar Association (HCBA) where she was instrumental in reviving the association's charitable fundraiser, "Bowling with Badges," first established by Victoria Gelfman. In the past two years, the event raised almost \$9,000 for the Howard County Police Foundation to fund programs to improve public safety and help the families of injured and fallen officers. In May of this year, Ms. Rosen received the HCBA's 2017 Service Award.

The Victoria F. Gelfman Legal Excellence Award was established by the MDSAA and the family of Ms. Gelfman who was an assistant state's attorney for Howard County until her untimely death from leukemia at the age of 31. The award was recently presented by Ms. Gelfman's two sisters—Hillary Gelfman and Joanna Hoyle, along with their parents—Howard County Circuit Court Judge Lenore R. Gelfman and attorney/broadcaster Dick Gelfman, and Ms. Hoyle's children, Jacob and Julia Hoyle.

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The Gelfman family created the award to honor their daughter who viewed working as a prosecutor as her dream job. She was a Howard County prosecutor from September 2010 to August 2014 after graduating from the University of Virginia and the University of Baltimore School of Law. The award is designed to annually advance prosecutorial excellence in the state of Maryland and to recognize a young prosecutor who demonstrates outstanding leadership and contributions to the legal profession and to the community.

“This year we received almost a dozen nominations for the award and all the nominees were absolutely outstanding,” says Steven Kroll, executive director of the Maryland State's Attorneys' Association. “Vickie Gelfman was recognized as a rising star within Maryland's legal community and I think many of us were struck by the similarity of the admirable qualities of these two successful prosecutors,” says Kroll. Vickie Gelfman's father, Dick Gelfman added, “This award seeks to reward not only the best and the brightest in the profession but those who demonstrate a commitment to community service and a dedication to the highest ideals of being a prosecutor. This was the third year of the award, and it's good to see it coming back to Howard County and the office Vickie loved so much.”

Rosen received a commemorative plaque along with a check for \$5,000. “It was the Gelfmans' desire, in funding a financial award, to help alleviate financial hurdles due to educational loans or other obligations facing young prosecutors,” says Kroll.

The Ellicott City-based Maryland State's Attorneys' Association is an advocate for the honorable and ethical administration of justice in Maryland, and provides continuing education and additional services for prosecuting attorneys and other personnel affiliated with the 24 state's attorneys' offices throughout the State of Maryland.

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Cutline for accompanying photo:

The Gelfman family recently presented a plaque in recognition of Howard County Assistant State's Attorney Elizabeth Rosen receiving the 2017 Victoria F. Gelfman Legal Excellence Award. Shown l-r are: Jacob Hoyle, Dick Gelfman, Joanna Hoyle, Julia Hoyle, Elizabeth Rosen, Hillary Gelfman and Howard County Circuit Court Judge Lenore R. Gelfman.